

THE TROUBLE WITH CHINESE EMPIRE.

Submission of Proposition as
Basis for Peace Negotiations.

OUR MINISTER INSTRUCTED.

He is Prepared to Deal With the New
Phase of the Situation Developed by
General Acceptance of the French Note
—Death of Vice-Consul Ragsdale, of
Tien Tsin—Expedition of Allies Found
Walls of Chou Chou Ornamented With
Human Heads.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)
Washington, D. C., Oct. 18.—For the
first time in three days Minister Con-
ger was heard from at the State De-
partment to-day. He communicated by
cable the substance of certain proposi-
tions advanced by Prince Ching and Li
Hung Chang as a basis for the conduct
of negotiations for a settlement of the
Chinese trouble. The Chinese Govern-
ment had prepared the way for these
by a preliminary action looking toward
the punishment of Chinese officials
guilty of complicity in the Boxer up-
rising, and while the text of Mr. Con-
ger's communication is not made pub-
lic, it is believed that the last Chinese
advance is addressed to some of the
propositions contained in the French
note, being in the nature of counter
proposals and proceeding upon the
theory that what has been done in the
matter of punishments is sufficient to
meet the demands of the Powers in
that respect.

MR. CONGER'S INSTRUCTIONS.
It was learned at the State Depart-
ment that Mr. Conger's previous in-
structions to him perfectly to deal with
the new phase of the Chinese situation,
developed by the general acceptance of
the French note, as the basis for pre-
sent action.

Yesterday M. Thibaut, the French
Charge here, called at the State De-
partment and proposed to M. Del-
casse the immediate institution at Pekin
of negotiations for a settlement, and it
appears that the Secretary then agreed
to do his part. His promise was made
verbally and it may not be reduced to
writing at all, but Mr. Conger is al-
ready acting in conformity therewith.
Most of the Powers have accepted the
French note with reservations, but it
is said that they all agree upon a
sufficient number of points of the first
magnitude to warrant the assembling
of the diplomatic body at Pekin to
begin work of formulating objects of
common desire and reconciling diver-
gent views. It is probable that to this
body will be referred the latest Chinese
counter proposition received to-day by
cable from Mr. Conger.

REPLY TO CHINA'S DISPATCHED.
Washington, Oct. 18.—Secretary Hay
said to-day that the reply to the mes-
sage of the Emperor of China thank-
ing the President for the attitude of
the United States, and expressing hope
of a speedy settlement, had been dis-
patched. It was purely formal in char-
acter. It thanked the Emperor for his
expressions and joined in the hope of
a speedy and satisfactory peace.

HURRY OF FRANCE.
Paris, Oct. 18.—Russia, Austria, Ger-
many and Great Britain having al-
ready replied affirmatively to M. Del-
casse's note, he is notifying the Powers
of the acceptance of the first, and is
asking each of them to instruct their
ministers to begin work of peace ne-
gotiations. Favorable replies are ex-
pected from all. M. Delcasse, the French
minister at Pekin, therefore, has been
instructed to place himself in touch
with the ambassadors and Chinese em-
bassies for the purpose of opening ne-
gotiations at the earliest moment.

CONSUL RAGSDALE DEAD.
Washington, Oct. 18.—The State De-
partment has received a report from
the consul at Nagasaki of the death at
that place, on September 13, of B. W.
Ragsdale, vice consul and marshal of
the consular court at Tien Tsin, China.
Mr. Ragsdale was a resident of Santa
Rosa, Cal., and was appointed marshal
in 1898 and vice consul in 1900. He had
gone from Tien Tsin to Nagasaki in
July for the benefit of his health.

A JOINT PROPOSAL.
London, Oct. 18.—A representative of
the Associated Press learns that Prince
Ching and Li Hung Chang have finally
succeeded in drawing up a joint pro-
posal for a settlement. Beyond the
fact that it is likely to require consid-
erable alteration before proving ac-
ceptable nothing is ascertainable here
regarding the actual terms. The Chi-
nese minister here professes ignorance
of such proposals, but it can be defini-
tely said that it is now engaging the at-
tention of the British Foreign Office.

CHI CHOW WALLS ORNAMENTED.
Pekin, Wednesday, Oct. 17, via Tien
Tsin and Shanghai, Oct. 18.—The Pekin
column of the Pao Ting Fu expedition
arrived at a point six miles south of
Chi Chow yesterday without encounter-
ing opposition.
They found the heads of 14 Boxers on
the walls of Chou Chou and they killed
seven of the imperial troops.

Field Marshal Count von Waldersee
has arrived here and has been accord-
ed full military honors. He was ac-
companied by an escort of international
troops to the palace of the Dowager
Empress.

"CHARACTERISTICALLY ARRO-
GANT."
London, Oct. 18.—The Times' corre-
spondent at Pekin, Dr. Morrison, de-
scribes the tone of the joint note of Li
Hung Chang and Prince Ching as
"characteristically arrogant, as if it
were China and not Europe that is dic-
tating terms."

OPERATIONS OF RUSSIANS.
St. Petersburg, Oct. 18.—The War Of-
fice has published further official ad-
vices regarding the advance to the oc-
cupation of Mukden. These show that
the Russians left camp at Lio Jan, Sep-
tember 30. The Chinese retired before
them in disorder, plundering and burn-
ing the villages as they traversed them.
The main body of the Chinese retired
in the direction of Mukden, although

large numbers moved eastward and
westward.

At Jan Tai, General Subbotitch, one
of the Russian commanders, learned
that the Chinese authorities had de-
serted Mukden and that their flight had
been followed by that of the Chinese
troops, after pillaging the town. He
immediately dispatched a flying col-
umn under Colonel Artamonoff, which,
after slight resistance, occupied Muk-
den at 4 o'clock p. m., October 2.

The Chinese had fired the mines and
destroyed the city gates. The Russians
found all the buildings belonging to
Europeans and native converts burn-
ing. The imperial palace had been
looted and partially burned.
A few Chinese maintained a weak
rifle fire in the streets, but soon retired.
The main body of the Russians oc-
cupied the town in the course of the fol-
lowing day and cleared out all of the
remaining Chinese troops. Consider-
able stores and war material, with some
modern guns and rifles, were found.

HARD AT THE BOXERS.
Tien Tsin, Oct. 18, via Shanghai, Oct.
18.—A courier reports that the British
column of the Pao Ting Fu expedition
reached the walled town of Wang Chia
Kou October 15, meeting with no resis-
tance and that the other columns have
also been unopposed.

The natives are friendly and are sup-
plying food to the troops.

The Tao Tai of Wang Chia Kou as-
serts that a body of troops, supposed
to be French or German, dispersed a
force of Boxers around We Nan Octo-
ber 9, inflicting severe losses and burn-
ing a number of villages.

General Chaffee has ordered two
companies of the Ninth United States
Infantry to garrison Tien Tsin.
The provisional government of Tien
Tsin has sentenced six Boxers to death.

THE BOXERS ACTIVE.

TEARING UP RAILROADS AND
CUTTING TELEGRAPH WIRES.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Pretoria, Oct. 18.—The Boers are
daily tearing up portions of the rail-
road and cutting telegraph and tele-
phone wires. Their attacks are inter-
mittent. The repairing linesmen cannot
leave the garrisoned points without
considerable escort.

The only remedy seems to be to cor-
ral all the burghers and deport them,
as apparently none can be trusted.

SITUATION IN THE ANTHRACITE FIELD.

Big Coal Companies Amend the
Notices Posted Wednesday.

MITCHELL WILL NOT TALK.

T. D. Nichols, District President of United
Mine Workers, Does Not Think Mine
Workers Will Waive Their Demand for
Straight Increase and Allow Substitu-
tion of Powder Clause in Agreement,
and Says the Situation Looks Like a Pro-
longation of the Strike.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Scranton, Pa., Oct. 18.—Representa-
tives of nearly all the big coal com-
panies of the region conferred here to-
day and made an agreement to amend
the notices already posted by attach-
ing the following:

"In further explanation of the above
notice this company desires to say that
it is its intention to pay the advance
in wages above noted until April 1,
1901, and thereafter until further no-
tice."

The following statement was issued to
the press:

"The representatives of the larger
coal companies, after their meeting
this afternoon, stated in reply to in-
quiries that they had offered their
men a ten per cent. advance as indi-
cated by the notices they had posted,
that this notice specifically stated that
the reduction of powder from \$2.75 to
\$1.50 would be considered in arriving
at the wages of the contract miners.
It was expected when the notices were
posted that the offer was to stand un-
til April 1, and indefinitely thereafter,
but inasmuch as there seems to be
some misunderstanding in this mat-

BRYAN'S TOUR OF THE EMPIRE STATE.

The People Gave Him Close At-
tention Wherever He Spoke.

TRICK OF THE REPUBLICANS.

Bills Posted With Object in View of Break-
ing His Hold on the Masses. Republi-
cans are Avoiding the Real Issues of
the Campaign, Thereby Insulting the
Intelligence of the People—The Demo-
cratic Party Will, if Entrusted With
Power, Destroy Private Monopoly.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Syracuse, N. Y., Oct. 18.—William J.
Bryan continued his tour of the Empire
State to-day, traveling half across it
from east to west. He began his jour-
ney at Albany and following the course
of the picturesque Mohawk and the line
of the Erie Canal, he reached this point
late in the afternoon. From here he
made a run northward to the southern
shore of Lake Ontario and made a
speech of half an hour's length at Os-
wego. Returning to this city later he
spoke here to-night.

The attendance at the majority of
meetings was complimentary in size
and some of the audiences were large.
In comparatively few places was there
marked enthusiasm. There was, how-
ever, close attention in every instance.
In no case was there any interruption
worthy of note. The Oswego meeting
was the best attended and in other re-
spects the most notable of the day.

At most of his stopping places to-day
Mr. Bryan was confronted by large and
enthusiastic crowds. The immense crowd
which greeted Mr. Bryan when he ar-
rived here at 5 o'clock from Oswego,
which has greeted a political speaker
here for many years. The crowd jam-
med and squeezed itself into the large
square in front of the Erie Canal
dock, Mr. Bryan spoke from the
balcony of the Hotel Syracuse. Inside
there was a mass meeting which was
addressed by Mayor Jones, of Toledo, un-
til Mr. Bryan finished his open air
speech. He spoke for half an hour
from the stand and then went into the
theatre and spoke for an hour and a
half. In the latter speech he pre-
sented in detail all the issues beginning
with the trusts.

He said that he believed it was possi-
ble to prevent any private monopoly
from doing business in this country.
His plan he outlined as follows:
"First, make the corporation take
out a license, then require the water
out of the stock. I believe that this
method will effectively prevent any
monopoly from existing. I believe that
you have got to destroy the trust or
they'll destroy your liberty."

IMPERIALISM.

Then taking up imperialism, he said
in part:
"The Republicans want to force upon
you a standing army of 100,000. If this
government is administered according
to Jefferson's plan of equal rights for
all and special privileges for none,
there will be no need of such a stand-
ing army. The only reason that can be
given why the Republicans want such
an army is to enforce tyrannical laws
against the laboring men. Republicans
say that we are trying to scare you
with the cry of imperialism in the
Philippines. We have no title to the
Philippines. All we ever got from
Spain in return for our \$20,000,000 was
a license to hunt in the Philippines.
We knew when we acquired the Philip-
pines that the Philippines were sus-
pected independence. We say that the
Philippines should be treated as the
Cubans promised to treat the Cubans."

AT CANASTOTA.

Mr. Bryan repeated his declaration
that the Republicans had amended the
Commandment so as to read: "Thou
shalt not steal on a small scale," and
suggested another amendment to the
Tenth Commandment as being in con-
sonance with the Republican policy,
making one of them read: "Thou shalt
not kill—unless there are more of you
than of the other fellows."

At Canastota there were a number
of railroad men in Mr. Bryan's audi-
ence. He spoke to them of the "full dinner
pail." He said that even if there was
a full dinner pail for the laboring man
it would be impossible to trace its ex-
istence to the Republican party. "The
labor organizations of the country," he
said, "have done more for labor in
the past few years than the Republi-
can party could do in a century."

He also said that even if the or-
gan of the locomotive firemen had
been reduced thirty-two pages in size
because of the increased price of
paper due to the paper trust, and ad-
ded that the Republicans would prob-
ably be willing to cut all the remainder
of the publication so that the readers
it could get nothing to read except
what the Republicans themselves
might supply.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

HAS MONOPOLY OF REVOLU-
TIONARY SUGGESTIONS JUST NOW.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Chicago, Oct. 18.—Senator James K.
Jones, chairman of the Democratic
National Committee, to-day made the
following statement:
"It has been the fashion for the Re-
publicans for some years to denounce
Democrats as anarchists, revolution-
ists and the like, and the Republican
party seems to have a monopoly of re-
volutionary suggestions just now."
"We see a Secretary of the Treasury,
in an effort to disturb the business of
the country for political effect, sug-
gesting that Mr. Bryan in case of his
election, would deliberately evade the
law with a purpose as unstatesmanlike
and unpatriotic as his own in making
his suggestion. Fortunately, Mr. Bryan
has been before the public long
enough for every one to know that
tricks and false pretenses are not
among his weapons, and suggestions
of this kind excite contempt."

"But worse than this is the fact that

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HOLLAND'S BEAUTIFUL YOUNG QUEEN AND HER FIANCE, DUKE HENRY OF MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.

Queen Wilhelmina of Holland, who was rapidly achieving a reputation as a coquette, has at last put an end to the babbling of the gossips by announcing her betrothal to Duke Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. Queen Wilhelmina is only 20 years of age and succeeded to the throne on the death of her father, King Willem III, in 1890. Her future husband is 24 years of age and is a lieutenant in the Prussian guards.

DEATH OF MAJ. PETERSON.

AN HOUR LATER HIS WIFE
KILLED HERSELF.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Washington, D. C., Oct. 18.—The War
Department has received the following
cablegram:

"Havana, Oct. 18, 1900.

Surgeon-General, Washington:

"Major Matt R. Peterson, United
States Volunteers, died at Los Animas
at 9 o'clock, October 17. Mrs. Peterson,
his wife, killed herself an hour later
with a revolver."

GORGAS,
"Chief Sanitary Officer."

Major Peterson was of the commis-
sary department and had the rank of
captain of the regular establishment.
He was a graduate of West Point and
was appointed from North Carolina.
Mrs. Peterson was the daughter of a
prominent business man of Cincinnati,
and was gifted with unusual charms of
person and mind. Her devotion to her
husband is indicated by the tragic
manner of her death.

The remains of Major Peterson and
his wife were interred this afternoon
with military honors. The flag at El
Morro and on all the public buildings
were at half mast. The tragic occur-
rence has greatly depressed the whole
military community in Havana.

SENATOR SHERMAN'S CONDITION.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Washington, D. C., Oct. 18.—There
was no material change in ex-Senator
Sherman's condition to-night except
that he showed signs of increasing
weakness. The patient is partially un-
conscious much of the time, rallying
and brightening at intervals.

Spain's New War Minister.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Madrid, Oct. 18.—General Linarez has
been gazetted as Minister of War and
General Azcarra as president of the
Senate.

that that was his great objection to
me—that I was honest, and, therefore,
dangerous—an objection that cannot be
made to some Republicans who have
been in power. I have promised that
my Attorney General will not come
from New Jersey, and I have promised
that he will enforce the law."

A GREAT TRIUMPH.

The Oswego meeting proved one of
the greatest triumphs of Mr. Bryan's
entire tour. It was a reminder of his
best Ohio meetings. The meeting was
held in Washington Square and the
band stand, which was utilized as a
speaker's stand, was surrounded by a
vast mass of humanity, packed so
closely together that it looked as if it
would be impossible to get Mr. Bryan
or other members of the party from the
train. There were probably five times
as many people present as could hear
what was said. Mr. Bryan spoke for
only about half an hour. He mounted
a table so tall that he could see. Referring
to the size of the crowd, Mr. Bryan said
he had wasted a great deal of time in
visiting other places, "not knowing
that the whole State would be in Os-
wego."

As he had done in his previous
speeches of the day, Mr. Bryan again
gave the principal place in his remarks
to the trust question. He charged that
the Republicans hoped by juggling, and
only by that means, to deceive the peo-
ple into voting their ticket. In re-
sponse to a voice from the crowd con-
cerning the starch combination, Mr.
Bryan said that he knew nothing per-
sonally in regard to the Oswego works,
but that he had been told that the
works were employing fewer men now
than formerly. He related the legal pro-
ceedings against the Nebraska branch of
the starch combination, and then
warned his hearers gently against
trusts of all kinds as calculated at any
time to close any industrial enterprise
which might be controlled by them.

The return trip to Syracuse was made
in an hour, and this city was reached
by 8 o'clock.

IMMENSE CROWD AT SYRACUSE.

Syracuse, N. Y., Oct. 18.—A cold driz-
zling, which set in early in the evening,
did not dampen in the least the ardor
and enthusiasm of the immense crowd
which greeted Mr. Bryan when he ar-
rived here at 5 o'clock from Oswego.
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which has greeted a political speaker
here for many years. The crowd jam-
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square in front of the Erie Canal
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A BIG ROBBERY BROUGHT TO LIGHT.

Thousands of Dollars Stolen From
New York Postoffice.

EFFORTS TO HIDE THE CRIME.

Many of the Largest Business Firms and
Banks in Manhattan, Above Forty-second
Street, Had Registered Mail in the
Station the Night It Was Robbed—Gross
Carelessness Enabled Some One With a
Key to Open the Registered Locks and
Commit the Theft.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

New York, Oct. 18.—The World to-
morrow will say: